

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of October 3, 2005**

1. **Street Restoration (Ward 6):** Concrete curb replacement is continuing on Holton Lane. *(Public Works)*
2. **Leaf Collection (Citywide):** This year's leaf collection will begin November 7 and continue 7 weeks through December 23. All residents will be receiving a green mailer detailing the collection process, including the leaf collection hotline number (301) 891-7626. Public Works has polished up route assignments and daily record keeping processes to ensure a well managed program that provides responsive collection. *(Public Works)*
3. **Cancellation of Saturday's Community Planting (Ward 6):** The Saturday, October 8 community planting day for Lockney Circles has been cancelled due to rain. *(Public Works)*
4. **Gift of Trees Volunteer Event (Ward 3):** Wednesday, the State of Maryland Gift of Trees Program provided 30 trees to the City for planting. The trees were planted in the Hancock Avenue paper street area with the help of 15 volunteers from Columbia Union College. The volunteers also removed some invasive plants in the area such as ailanthus, red mulberry and kudzu vines. *(City Arborist)*
5. **Montgomery County Grants Expo:** HCD staff participated in the first annual grants expo in Gaithersburg on Thursday, October 10, providing technical assistance to those in attendance. The event, sponsored by The Nonprofit Action Team, was co-hosted by County Council President-Tom Perez and County Council Member-George Leventhal. *(Housing and Community Development)*
6. **Tenant Opportunity to Purchase - New Hampshire Towers (Ward 6):** The Hampshire Towers Tenants' Association met with staff from Montgomery County and non-profit developer Community Preservation Development Corporation (CPDC) on Wednesday, October 5. The Association will be meet next week to review the information presented by both developers, Tenacity Group, the developer who has a contract on the property, and CPDC. Attorney Rick Eisen is assisting the tenants in their review of this information. *(Housing and Community Development)*
7. **Tenant Opportunity to Purchase - University Blvd., (Ward 6):** Tenants residing at 1001, 1003 and 1005 University Blvd., a 20 unit property, have been advised that the rental property is for sale and that there is a third party contract for \$1,600,000. Follow up letters from the city have been sent to each tenant advising them of their right to purchase and form a tenant association. Community organizers, Mario Cristaldo and Rozanne Look will visit the property this week to ascertain the interest of the tenants. *(Housing and Community Development)*
8. **Affordable Housing:** Staff met this week with Michael Lee, Executive Director for Community Capital of Maryland, Inc. to explore affordable housing opportunities available through the CDFI. The discussion included funding opportunities for the City's affordable housing goals, the acquisition and rehabilitation of vacant or abandoned properties, and the preservation of affordable rental units. *(Housing and Community Development)*

9. Montgomery County Housing Fair: The Montgomery County Housing Fair and Consumer Protection Day held on Saturday October 2, 2005 in Gaithersburg was a huge success. Over 50 exhibitors participated with information on first time home buying, rental assistance programs and consumer protection tips. This is an annual event which continues to grow in popularity. Takoma Park has been a member of the planning committee for the past 3 years. *(Housing and Community Development)*

10. Resources for Spanish Speakers: The Library is providing approximately 30 new resources for Spanish speaking Library users of all ages. Many are reference resources with accompanying CD-ROMs. These include multi-volume sets on geography and world cultures, medicine and alternative medicine, anthropology, art, religion, environmental science and much more. An encyclopedia of practical child care is available for checkout, with another set in reference. There are reference and circulating works for children as well. While they are still being added to the collection, you may view newly catalogued resources by clicking on "recent items" on our catalog search screen, accessible on the Internet via the Library web page. *(Library)*

11. Airing the Caucus: City TV staff aired the Nominating Caucus held on Weds.Oct. 5th. This will be replayed between now and the election on City TV 13. *(City TV)*

12. Cable Franchising Legislation: Staff (Communications Director Lonni Moffet) attended the joint meeting of the Montgomery County and Prince George's County Municipal Leagues on Thursday and presented information about the federal cable franchising legislation. The City's resolution was distributed to about 20 local government officials. *(City TV)*

13. Pee Wee Basketball: Pee Wee Basketball started last Sunday. This program introduces the fundamentals of the game to 1st and 2nd grade kids. Having fun and learning the game are major points of emphasis. Twenty-four (24) participants have signed up so far. Come check it out at Piney Branch this Sunday between 1:00pm and 3:30pm. *(Recreation)*

14. Recreation Program Delays: The Recreation Department staff has had to call people who have enrolled in programs to postpone the start dates due to the delay in construction of the new community center. Those that were planned to take place in any part of the new space have been postponed. The actual opening date is unknown at the time of this writing. Classes that are held in the Heffner Community Center, outdoors, at the schools or in the Council Chambers are running as scheduled. *(Recreation)*

15. The Senior Program: The Seniors enjoyed a full day of fun at the Hershey factory in Pennsylvania. We took an inside motorized tour showing the fascinating process of chocolate making. At the end of the tour, a very small sample of candy was given out. We ate at the food court then shopped for our favorite candies. Also, the Seniors are enjoying their new Knitting program. This program is two parts, basic and intermediate. We have an excellent instructor. Her name is June Gable. She is very knowledgeable as well as patient. The members started with a knitting a simple cloth. *(Recreation)*

16. **New Hires:** Iraj Almas and Thomas Black, graduates of the Prince George's Municipal Police Academy, were hired and will begin on Monday, October 10th. PEO R. Rojas has been hired as a school crossing guard; the parking enforcement position was a part-time position. *(Police)*

17. **Crime Report:** Among arrests this week were two suspects apprehended by patrol officers for auto-related charges. One was arrested Monday on Larch Avenue, after an officer saw him break into a vehicle, take property and flee. The other was arrested early Thursday morning on Flower Avenue for vandalism to auto. Both arrests were aided by telephoned reports from citizens. *(Police)*

18. **9-1-1 Disruption:** There was a disruption in the transfer of 9-1-1 calls from the Montgomery County Police emergency communications center over the weekend. A call being transferred did not connect through to Takoma Park. On learning of the problem, supervisors from Takoma Park and Montgomery County were able to effect a re-routing until a final repair was implemented. The problem is now repaired and the 9-1-1 transfers are functioning properly. *(Police)*

19. **Traffic Stops:** Fifty-nine (59) of 71 traffic stops resulted in citations being written. *(Police)*